

Region 7:

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3poWQFJ"](http://bit.ly/3poWQFJ)]

Year after state regulators ordered AltEn Ethanol to stop selling its pesticide-contaminated soil conditioner to local farmers, the Mead ethanol plant remained the final destination for millions of pounds of treated seed in North America.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3u6iZMw"](http://bit.ly/3u6iZMw)]

Nebraska's Department of Environment and Energy says it is actively monitoring a discharge from the AltEn ethanol plant in Mead. Researchers with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's Eastern Nebraska Research, Extension and Education Center discovered the spill Friday, which was reported to be about 3 miles from the plant.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3aq2pPV"](http://bit.ly/3aq2pPV)]

Unfortunately, President Biden has started his administration off with a rush to reinstate some of the worst Obama-era energy policies. These are policies that will destroy jobs, raise costs and make us less competitive at a time when we're fighting for our economy.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3anZnvu"](http://bit.ly/3anZnvu)]

State environmental officials on Friday were monitoring an early morning wastewater discharge from an ethanol plant near Mead that had been ordered to close a week ago because of concerns about pollution of air, water and land.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/37jokXh"](http://bit.ly/37jokXh)]

A frozen pipe has burst at a Nebraska ethanol plant that had been ordered to close a week ago, causing a wastewater spill, environmental officials say.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/2NxMoi4"](http://bit.ly/2NxMoi4)]

In the late 1980s, drought left the wells that supply water to the city of Hays and Russell in western Kansas precariously low. The near-catastrophe sent city leaders on the hunt for more water.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3jXsHMA"](http://bit.ly/3jXsHMA)]

U.S. Senator Chuck Grassley is disturbed by comments made by new Biden climate czar Gina McCarthy. During his weekly call with ag reporters Tuesday, the Iowa Republican said the former EPA administrator under Barack Obama seemed to call out the Midwest last week.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/2NuvfWp"](http://bit.ly/2NuvfWp)]

Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa, sent a letter to White House National Climate Advisor Gina McCarthy on Feb. 16 inviting her to visit Iowa and learn about the state's leadership in renewable fuel production and sustainable energy.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/37ltOAC"](http://bit.ly/37ltOAC)]

In his weekly press conference call with farm reporters Tuesday morning, Senator Grassley said he was surprised when he read a quote recently attributed to McCarthy about Middle America.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3avaL9b"](http://bit.ly/3avaL9b)]

The Missouri Department of Resources has awarded \$1.36 million in financial assistance to the City of Meadville for upgrades to its wastewater collection and treatment system. Missouri DNR has also awarded \$4.18 million to the City of Carrollton for upgrades to its drinking water distribution. Both projects will be funded through the state revolving fund loan program.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3s7g98p"](http://bit.ly/3s7g98p)]

The Saunders County Board of Supervisors has scheduled a special meeting on March 1 with the Village of Mead Board of Trustees and other officials to discuss the AltEn situation.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/2N9nyoZ"](http://bit.ly/2N9nyoZ)]

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy on Wednesday said it's continuing to monitor the release of waste material from AltEn Ethanol near Mead after a pipe burst on a 4 million-gallon digester tank late last week. Emergency responders from the EPA's Region 7 office in Lenexa, Kansas, have also collected samples and offered assistance in cleanup.

Also in: *Cherokee Ledger-News (Woodstock, GA), Hastings (NE) Tribune, Beatrice (NE) Daily Sun, North Platte (NE) Telegraph, Scottsbluff (NE) Star-Herald, Norfolk (NE) Daily News, York (NE) News-Times, Fremont (NE) Tribune, Columbus (NE) Telegram, Kearney (NE) Hub, Grand Island (NE) Independent*

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3pBomjo"](http://bit.ly/3pBomjo)]

After a frozen pipe burst in the wee hours of the morning on Feb. 12 at AltEn, the Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy requested aid from the Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 in Lenexa, Kan., according to a press release from the NDEE.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/2ZsB8pN"](http://bit.ly/2ZsB8pN)]

Samples of the leaked material have been taken to determine if it contains pesticides, officials said. The EPA is also on site to assess the spill, collect additional samples and give advice on cleanup.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3qwVeev"](http://bit.ly/3qwVeev)]

NDEE collected samples to determine if the material contains pesticides and requested support from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7. The EPA was on site to assess the spill, collect additional samples, give advice on cleanup and help with mitigation efforts. Sampling results could take up to two weeks to return.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3pswzWZ"](http://bit.ly/3pswzWZ)]

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy responded to a discharge at the AltEn ethanol facility near Mead on Friday, Feb. 12.

[[HYPERLINK "https://bit.ly/3auZ3ew"](https://bit.ly/3auZ3ew)]

NDEE collected samples to determine if the material contains pesticides and requested support from the EPA Region 7.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/37l8DZZ"](http://bit.ly/37l8DZZ)]

The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy is monitoring the discharge from an ethanol facility in Mead.

Also in: *KOLN Ch. 10/11 Lincoln NE, WOWT Ch. 6 Omaha*

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3pwHDCD"](http://bit.ly/3pwHDCD)]

The NDEE said that as of Tuesday, the spill stopped spreading and has not reached the Platte River. The Nebraska Department of Environment and Energy (NDEE) and University of Nebraska-Lincoln researchers continue to monitor the [[HYPERLINK "https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ketv.com%2Farticle%2FUniversity-of-nebraska-working-to-contain-spill-from-shutdown-ethanol-plant-in-mead%2F35495128&data=04%7C01%7CAlbano.Emily%40epa.gov%7Cce8ce26764804fd93b1d08d8d432e154%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637492662280382795%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=msG1Hqb01od6t251PH3109BYdqs0nv%2FQ1YJxi1JIMtM%3D&reserved=0"](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.ketv.com%2Farticle%2FUniversity-of-nebraska-working-to-contain-spill-from-shutdown-ethanol-plant-in-mead%2F35495128&data=04%7C01%7CAlbano.Emily%40epa.gov%7Cce8ce26764804fd93b1d08d8d432e154%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637492662280382795%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=msG1Hqb01od6t251PH3109BYdqs0nv%2FQ1YJxi1JIMtM%3D&reserved=0)] in Mead.

[[HYPERLINK "http://bit.ly/3py0nBM"](http://bit.ly/3py0nBM)]

A frozen pipe has burst at a Nebraska ethanol plant that had been ordered to close a week ago, causing a wastewater spill, environmental officials say. The spill is the latest problem at the AltEn facility.

Also in: *Des Moines Daily Record*

[[HYPERLINK "https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F3blwY8P&data=04%7C01%7CAlbano.Emily%40epa.gov%7Cce8ce26764804fd93b1d08d8d432e154%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637492662280392752%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=dboUvxfJj9pVJYJAXOZUwlvR09rcIANSghrylKZxABQ%3D&reserved=0"](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F3blwY8P&data=04%7C01%7CAlbano.Emily%40epa.gov%7Cce8ce26764804fd93b1d08d8d432e154%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637492662280392752%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=dboUvxfJj9pVJYJAXOZUwlvR09rcIANSghrylKZxABQ%3D&reserved=0)]

The state says the plant has less than a day to construct plans to recover, transport and prevent any similar situations.

[[HYPERLINK "https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F3bodYGv&data=04%7C01%7CAlbano.Emily%40epa.gov%7C4002301a885347e1cb6108d8d4ecc647%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637493460681970994%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2F3nLe3J1WDeA3C41uXIJ820lgRxn5BQJiRRwcO8KACg%3D&reserved=0"](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F3bodYGv&data=04%7C01%7CAlbano.Emily%40epa.gov%7C4002301a885347e1cb6108d8d4ecc647%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637493460681970994%7CUnknown%7CTWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=%2F3nLe3J1WDeA3C41uXIJ820lgRxn5BQJiRRwcO8KACg%3D&reserved=0)]

A regional EPA official says livestock producers need to be extra cautious with alternative heat sources during extreme cold temperatures and, in some cases,

blackouts. Cody Brown, physical scientist with EPA Region 7 Air and Radiation Division in Kansas City, says any combustion equipment is a risk for carbon monoxide poisoning which can occur at even low levels.

[HYPERLINK

"https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fbit.ly%2F3bpsFcm&data=04%7C01%7CAlbano.Emily%40epa.gov%7C4002301a885347e1cb6108d8d4ecc647%7C88b378b367484867acf976aacbeca6a7%7C0%7C0%7C637493460681980949%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWljiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzliLCJBTiI6IjEhaWwiLCJXVCi6Mn0%3D%7C1000&sdata=DYi3Xu6e4O5y3h5%2Bh6bOGUb9CJVtjbaDuu7yPTbxVIM%3D&reserved=0"]

Iowa Senator Chuck Grassley says he finds recent comments from White House Climate Czar Gina McCarthy to be “disturbing.”